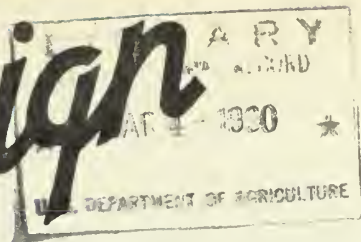


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Foreign



CROPS AND MARKETS

FOR RELEASE MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1960

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U. K. RELAXES RESTRICTIONS ON TOBACCO AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS FROM DOLLAR AREA

On January 28, 1960, the United Kingdom announced the removal of restrictions on imports of unmanufactured tobacco and manufactured tobacco products (except cigars) from the dollar area. Prior to this move, no U. K. company could purchase more than 61 percent of its light and oriental tobacco for home consumption from the dollar area, which includes the United States and Canada.

As the United Kingdom normally purchases about one-third of U. S. leaf exports and is by far the world's most important tobacco importer, the removal of import restrictions is considered by the U. S. trade the most important action of its type in the past 20 years.

U. S. tobacco exporters expect to derive some immediate benefits, if the 1960 U. S. flue-cured crop is suitable, as several U. K. manufacturers have low stocks of U. S. leaf. Competition, however, will not be completely free until Britain's tobacco manufacturers terminate the discriminatory guaranteed-purchasing agreement now in force with the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland. Also still in existence is a preferential tariff of approximately 21.5 cents a pound in favor of Commonwealth leaf.

MARYLAND TOBACCO EXPORTS SHOW SHARP GAIN IN 1959

Exports of Maryland tobacco rose nearly 22 percent in 1959 to a total of 14.4 million pounds, valued at \$9.9 million. The value (a record) was 27 percent more than the \$7.8 million received for exports of 11.9 million pounds in 1958. Switzerland, the leading market, took about the same volume as in 1958--6.5 million pounds. Exports to Belgium were more than 5 times the 1958 volume. Spain's imports were double those of 1958.

MARYLAND TOBACCO: U. S. exports by principal countries of destination, 1958 and 1959

Country of destination	1958	1959	Percent change
	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Switzerland.....	6,452	6,472	+0.3
Belgium.....	432	2,517	+482.6
Germany, West.....	864	1,154	+33.6
Portugal.....	1,191	1,148	-3.6
Netherlands.....	913	1,130	+23.8
Spain.....	516	1,064	+106.2
Others.....	1,485	926	-37.6
Total.....	11,853	14,411	+21.6

GREEK TOBACCO EXPORTS
INCREASE SLIGHTLY

Greek exports of unmanufactured tobacco at 50.1 million pounds for January-September 1959 were 2.6 million larger than for the same period of 1958. Major increases in exports to Italy, West Germany, France, Sweden, and Hungary more than offset the drop in exports to the United States, Soviet Union, and Egypt.

Takings of leaf tobacco by the United States dropped 39 percent to 8.8 million pounds. West Germany, the major market, imported 20 percent of total Greek exports of leaf tobacco in the 9-month period of 1959. Hungary resumed importation of unmanufactured Greek tobacco in 1959, after purchasing none in 1958.

TOBACCO, UNMANUFACTURED: Greece, exports by countries of
destination, January-September 1957-59

Country of destination	January-September		
	1957	1958	1959
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
United States.....	11,776	14,312	8,778
Germany, West.....	16,096	8,216	9,944
Germany, East.....	1,159	948	918
Soviet Union.....	6,748	6,997	5,143
Hungary.....	2,180	---	1,005
Poland.....	552	882	682
Czechoslovakia.....	1,343	773	904
United Kingdom.....	79	21	124
France.....	2,965	1,714	3,240
Austria.....	5,615	2,891	2,549
Finland.....	1,931	1,769	2,674
Italy.....	3,884	3,465	6,928
Belgium.....	2,882	771	1,651
Sweden.....	458	159	1,183
Switzerland.....	774	91	353
Egypt.....	3,798	1,224	83
Portugal.....	889	1,164	1,837
Others.....	1,706	2,096	2,079
Total.....	64,835	47,493	50,075

Source: Tobacco Intelligence, (London).

RHODESIAN FRONTIER DEVELOPMENT AIDED BY TOBACCO SUBSIDY

The settlement of European tobacco growers in the Fort Jameson area of Northern Rhodesia might have been abandoned in 1959 if the Rhodesian Government had not subsidized the price of tobacco grown there.

The government paid the difference between the higher price of 40 cents per pound received by established growers and 25 cents per pound for the flue-cured tobacco grown in the new producing region. The average subsidy per grower in the frontier area in 1959 was \$2,436. Total output of 1.7 million pounds in this area was 53 percent greater than in 1958.

AUSTRALIA MAKES WHEAT GIFT TO PAKISTAN

Australia recently announced a gift of 1,500 tons of wheat to Pakistan under the Colombo Plan to help meet a food shortage caused by flood damage. The wheat is valued at about \$92,000. Proceeds from its sale in Pakistan will be used to repair flood damage.

WEST GERMANY TO RESUME FLOUR EXPORTS

On January 29, the Import and Storage Agency of West Germany announced that beginning February 1, 1960, export licenses would again be issued for wheat flour exports. Granting of licenses was stopped last year (see Foreign Crops and Markets, November 30, 1959) following Australian complaints that Germany's subsidized flour exports were interfering with sales of Australian flour in that country's traditional markets.

German flour mills have been able to build up a sizable export trade in recent years--largely because they could obtain substantial quantities of imported wheat without paying skimming charges (on import tax imposed to equalize the price of imported wheat with that of the homegrown product) if the wheat was used to manufacture flour for export. The usual procedure was to allow millers 185 parts of imported wheat free of skimming charges for every 100 parts of flour exported. In addition, at least 50 percent of the imported wheat had to come from trade agreement sources. Moreover, such imported wheat could consist of "filler" wheat rather than quality wheat.

While details of the new regulations regarding flour exports are not yet available, there are indications that the quantities of foreign wheat that can be used for flour exports without payment of the skimming charges may be reduced to 170 or 165 parts for every 100 parts of flour exported. It is also reported that the proportion of such wheat which must come from trade agreement sources may be increased to 75 percent, and that it must consist of quality and not filler wheat.

BASE FOR GERMAN SKIMMING CHARGES
ON FEED GRAIN IMPORTS RAISED

West Germany is increasing domestic market prices for imported feed grains (except feed wheat) by DM 15 (\$3.60) per metric ton, effective May 1, 1960. This will be accomplished by raising the "base price" used in calculating the skimming charges (difference between the world price and the base price) levied on imports.

Because of the effect of the 1959 drought on hay, pasture, root crops, and other feedstuffs, the government's biweekly import quotas for feed grains have been set at relatively high levels this season. Stocks have therefore accumulated. But importers continue to buy in order to maintain their historic base for future import licenses.

With stocks accumulating, the government either had to reduce imports drastically or take other measures to avoid a glut when the 1960 crop is harvested. The decision was to raise the base for calculating skimming charges. The old and new bases follow.

FEED GRAINS: West Germany's old and new base prices for imports

Grain	Effective August 1, 1959		Effective May 1, 1960	
	Deutsche- marks	Dollars	Deutsche- marks	Dollars
	Per metric ton	Per metric ton	Per metric ton	Per metric ton
Feed corn from:				
Argentina.....	400	95.92	415	99.52
U.S. (yellow).....	390	93.52	405	97.12
Rumania.....	390	93.52	405	97.12
Bulgaria.....	390	93.52	405	97.12
Hungary.....	390	93.52	405	97.12
Yugoslavia.....	390	93.52	405	97.12
Feed wheat.....	400	95.92	400	95.92
Feed barley 1/.....	385	92.32	400	95.92
Feed oats.....	350	83.93	400	95.92
Feed milo and dura....	375	89.93	400	95.92
Feed millet.....	365	87.53	400	95.92

1/ A quality surcharge must be added to the base price for feed barley from certain countries. This charge in DM for metric ton follows: Argentina, 15; Russian, 10; White Turkish, 10; Canadian, 5; and United States, 5.

The government's Import and Storage Agency controls imports by means of import quotas and licenses. These specify the total amount of each grain that may be imported from each supplying country during the marketing season or any specified period within the season. In addition, the price of imported feed grains is equalized with that of domestic feed grains by an equalization fee or skimming charge on imports equal to the difference between the officially fixed base price for imports and the actual c.i.f. import price. Importers must sell the imported grain to the agency at the c.i.f. price and then repurchase it at the same price plus the skimming charge.

The government also fixes minimum and maximum producer prices for home-grown barley and other course grains. To maintain prices within the fixed range, the Import and Storage Agency must buy from producers at the fixed minimum whenever market prices fall below that level, and sell to processors, feeders, and other consumers at the fixed maximum whenever market prices rise above it.

While West Germany had a record feed grain crop in 1959--5.8 million metric tons, compared with 5.5 million tons in 1958--production of other feed-stuffs (especially feed beets, sugar beets, rutabagas, and hay) was very low because of the drought.

Feed grain imports in 1959-60 are expected to total at least 23.2 million tons, compared with 2.9 million tons in 1958-59, of which 857,000 tons came from the United States. Import commitments on new contracts for the first half (July-December) of the 1959-60 marketing season totaled 1.1 million tons, of which 378,000 tons (barley, 171,100 tons; corn, 121,600 tons; and oats, 85,300 tons) were for U. S. grain.

CANNING-TYPE BEANS SHORT IN BALKANS

While total production of beans in the Balkans was almost normal in 1959, it was reportedly short in the small white canning-quality beans desired by Western European canners.

Bulgaria's bean crop was good. Rumania's spotty, and Hungary's poor--especially the smaller type. Much of the Bulgarian supply is said to have been moved eastward. Trade sources state that Western Europe's stocks of canning-type beans are low; imports have been small in recent months but are expected to pick up soon.

In several recent years, Western Europe has imported more than a million bags of beans from the Balkans. Imports in 1957 and 1958 were as follows:

Origin	1957	1958
	1,000 bags (100 lb. each)	
Bulgaria.....	326	452
Rumania.....	336	273
Hungary.....	244	234
Other East Europe.....	131	75
Total.....	1,037	1,034

Bean production in these Balkan countries has not been officially reported since the 1940's. The last available figures were: Bulgaria (1945), 1,482,000 bags; Rumania (1940), 3,146,000 bags; and Hungary (1946, 1,286,000 bags.

COLOMBIA INVITES BIDS FOR ADDITIONAL U. S. OR CANDIAN WHEAT

On January 21, Colombia's National Institute of Food Supply (INA), which regulates the country's domestic and foreign trade in basic foodstuffs, invited bids for an additional 12,000 tons of Manitoba or Dark Hard Winter wheat to be paid for in dollars. Colombia's total imports of wheat, including flour, are expected to range between 130,000 and 150,000 tons grain equivalent in 1960.

Early in December, bids were invited on 10,000 tons of wheat (see Foreign Crops and Markets, January 18). A U. S. firm was awarded the contract. The December tender called for wheat with a minimum of 12 percent protein, a maximum of $14\frac{1}{2}$ percent moisture, and a maximum of 1 percent damaged kernels. The U. S. firm expects to supply wheat ranging between 13 and $13\frac{1}{2}$ percent protein. INA changed to specifications on that order to permit a maximum of 2 percent damaged kernels and urged the firm to avoid shipping wheat with the permissible $14\frac{1}{2}$ percent moisture.

Indications are that INA'S specifications will from now on be as follows: Test weight per bushel, 61.0 pounds minimum; foreign material, 0.5 maximum; wheat of other classes, 2.0 percent maximum; total damage, 1.0 percent maximum; shrunken and broken kernels, 3.0 percent maximum; and protein, 13.5 percent.

U. S. TALLOW EXPORTS UP 31 PERCENT LAST YEAR

U. S. exports of inedible tallow and greases in 1959 were 1,464 million pounds, up 31 percent from a year earlier. This excludes shipments of edible tallow and animal oils, which totaled 24 million pounds in 1959, compared with 13 million in 1958.

Although cattle slaughter was below 1958, a higher yield of fat per animal resulted in a sharp rise in tallow production and lower prices. Shipments of inedible tallow and greases in December were 161 million pounds, compared with 132 million in November and 87 million in December 1958.

Exports to most markets rose last year. Gains in shipments to the Netherlands, West Germany, and Japan were especially sharp. Shipments to Mexico and Egypt fell off considerably as a result of new import restrictions in the former and a dollar shortage in the latter. Exports to Spain were revived in late 1959 following liberalization of import restrictions.

Prospects are favorable for a further substantial increase in tallow exports in 1960. Tallow supplies are expected to rise further as cattle slaughter turns upward, and prices are expected to be at competitive levels.

INEDIBLE TALLOW AND GREASES 1/: U.S. exports by country of destination,
average 1951-55, annual 1956-59

Continent and country	Average 1951-55	1956	1957	1958 2/	1959 2/
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
North America:					
Canada.....	23,782	26,604	20,400	21,770	21,203
Mexico.....	43,659	58,906	40,147	49,771	15,743
El Salvador.....	3,842	3,947	2,103	1,017	2,522
Guatemala.....	3,693	5,075	5,856	8,659	8,249
Cuba.....	30,356	39,176	27,624	33,529	36,125
Dominican Republic..	3,709	3,843	3,928	4,176	5,644
Other.....	6,623	6,418	7,516	7,919	9,171
Total.....	115,664	143,969	107,574	126,841	98,657
South America:					
Chile.....	6,097	4,931	157	236	2,085
Colombia.....	15,140	12,274	18,069	17,928	23,514
Ecuador.....	6,124	9,940	10,332	9,446	9,387
Peru.....	9,769	10,907	8,876	6,879	8,751
Other.....	4,574	8,354	7,527	7,234	11,700
Total.....	41,704	46,406	44,961	41,723	55,437
Europe:					
Austria.....	6,897	7,670	4,427	3,246	3,122
Belgium-Luxembourg..	61,071	71,656	31,977	24,281	46,188
France.....	10,913	4,533	9,024	142	14,710
Germany, West.....	87,515	141,393	71,572	32,988	81,886
Ireland.....	6,126	5,925	865	79	1,771
Italy.....	137,080	271,919	239,916	260,914	292,856
Netherlands.....	139,534	238,625	232,856	139,623	265,500
Norway.....	3,346	3,779	1,176	1,006	1,281
Spain.....	3/ 1,741	31,553	35,423	1,392	9,957
Switzerland.....	33,485	28,900	15,863	7,586	12,427
United Kingdom.....	10,973	17,924	7,099	5,180	15,579
Poland.....	4/ 5,694	16,017	68,674	34,597	52,577
Yugoslavia.....	19,053	24,117	26,732	31,828	17,054
Other.....	8,838	23,185	5/ 60,255	7,653	10,121
Total.....	532,266	887,196	805,859	550,515	825,029
Africa:					
Egypt.....	34,408	49,499	66,977	71,010	49,806
Rhodesia-Nyasaland..	4,740	8,211	2,218	52	654
Union of South Africa:	52,211	67,155	40,590	28,208	48,252
Other.....	4,593	7,726	5,198	13,374	15,522
Total.....	95,952	132,591	114,983	112,644	114,234
Asia:					
China, Taiwan.....	15,434	27,297	22,239	19,408	28,194
Japan.....	161,025	211,152	223,096	216,858	263,852
Korea.....	9,283	18,007	15,046	16,589	19,207
Philippines.....	11,104	13,906	14,127	12,555	15,508
Other.....	12,942	21,151	6/ 43,886	22,311	7/ 44,154
Total.....	209,788	291,513	318,394	287,721	370,915
Total World.....	8/ 995,376	1,501,675	1,391,771	1,119,444	8/ 1,464,274

1/ Includes: Inedible tallow, animal greases and fats, animal oils, n.e.s., neatsfoot oil and stocks, oleic acid or red oil, and stearic acid. 2/ Preliminary. 3/ 1955 only.
4/ Less than a 5-year average. 5/ Includes 25.1 million pounds to U.S.S.R. 6/ Includes 34.9 million pounds to Turkey. 7/ Includes 29.6 million pounds to Iran. 8/ Includes 2,000 pounds to Australia.

AUSTRALIA MAY INCREASE FUNDS FOR WOOL PROMOTION

The Australian Wool Bureau has proposed an increase in the levy on wool sales in order to expand wool promotion programs in Australia and overseas markets.

Currently, wool growers are taxed about 45 cents per bale (300 pounds) for the Wool Use Promotion Fund and 22 cents per bale for the Research Fund. Under the Wool Tax Acts under which these levies are collected, the assessment for wool promotion is limited to a range of 22 to 56 cents per bale. These limits cannot be changed unless present legislation is amended. The actual level of assessment within these limits is determined by the principal woolgrower organizations and the Wool Bureau.

The Wool Bureau has circulated two proposals to woolgrower organizations. One would raise the limits for promotion and research combined to 1 - 1.5 percent of the gross returns from the wool clip. The alternative proposal would raise the present limits to \$1.24-\$2.24 per bale and retain the present levy of 22 cents for research, with the remainder going to promotion. These steep increases are opposed by some segments of the industry, and it is doubtful that the new rates could be enacted in time for the 1960-61 selling season.

Wool promotion efforts in major consuming countries are carried out by the International Wool Secretariat, which is financed by woolgrowers in Australian, New Zealand, and the Union of South Africa. The proposals by the Australian Wool Bureau reflect a growing awareness by the world's major wool producers that promotion efforts must be increased to counteract growing competition from man-made fibers.

U. S. LARD EXPORTS UP 55 PERCENT IN 1959

Larger supplies and lower prices boosted U. S. lard exports in 1959. They totaled 604 million pounds, up 55 percent from a year earlier. December exports were 37 million pounds, compared with 71 million in November and 26 million in December 1958.

U. S. exports last year to the United Kingdom and Cuba rose 88 and 31 percent, respectively. These countries accounted for 81 percent of total U. S. lard exports. Shipments to West Germany, Guatemala, Bolivia, Costa Rica, and Peru also rose sharply.

Lard exports are expected to hold up well during the first half of 1960, but may decline in the second half. With a sharp drop in the spring pig crop forecast, total hog slaughter and lard production in 1960 will probably be below a year earlier.

LARD, INCLUDING RENDERED PORK FAT: U.S. exports by country
of destination, average 1951-55, annual 1957-59

Continent and country	Average 1951-55	1957	1958	1959 1/
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
North America:				
Canada.....	6,497	26,611	5,108	4,070
Mexico.....	31,823	11,782	14,565	10,524
Panama Canal Zone....	967	373	152	81
Costa Rica.....	7,363	2,022	1,751	5,281
El Salvador.....	4,299	3,082	3,190	2,603
Guatemala.....	8,668	4,853	3,476	7,856
Panama.....	6,560	4,893	7,177	4,612
Cuba.....	157,427	178,791	165,302	217,033
Haiti.....	6,725	6,982	7,246	7,550
Netherlands Antilles..	1,066	220	295	415
Other.....	1,870	2,382	1,422	1,632
Total.....	233,265	241,991	209,684	261,657
South America:				
Bolivia.....	3,755	4,681	696	6,252
Brazil.....	2,088	6,000	---	55
Colombia.....	3,359	936	---	26
Ecuador.....	5,494	4	---	19
Peru.....	12,521	2,770	585	4,579
Venezuela.....	3,640	991	402	609
Other.....	134	38	268	1,774
Total.....	30,991	15,420	1,951	13,314
Europe:				
Austria.....	23,579	7,514	1,100	22
Belgium-Luxembourg...	1,005	348	42	235
France.....	1,104	---	140	106
Germany, West.....	55,978	17,779	10,928	39,940
Italy.....	593	2	3	26
Netherlands.....	33,114	9	---	1,547
Switzerland.....	1,725	73	---	---
United Kingdom.....	124,685	149,529	146,451	274,603
Yugoslavia.....	38,431	62,392	15,479	7,832
Other.....	4,839	328	827	559
Total.....	285,053	237,974	174,970	324,870
Asia.....	5,197	5,767	2,245	3,045
Other.....	130	110	---	1,276
World Total.....	554,636	501,262	388,850	604,162

1/ Preliminary.

Bureau of the Census.

COLOMBIA REDUCES IMPORT DUTIES ON BREEDING CATTLE

The Colombian Government passed a resolution on December 21, 1959, which reduced the import duties on breeding cattle. The 20-percent ad valorem duty on pedigreed males was removed, and the duty on females was reduced from 50 to 20 percent. Six purebred U.S. heifers have already been shipped to Colombia under the new regulations.

Imports of all types of cattle were prohibited from 1957 until May of last year, when the government relaxed import controls to allow breeding cattle imports. The removal of the import ban on breeding animals, together with the reduction of duties, should increase U. S. exports of breeding cattle to Colombia. Prior to the ban, Colombia was an important market for U. S. beef breeding cattle. In 1954 and 1955, it imported nearly 5,000 head annually from the United States.

The Colombian purchaser must still make a prior deposit of 130 percent of the cattle value. This deposit is returned 3 months after the animals arrive. The Colombian Government is considering removing the prior import deposit but as yet has taken no definite action.

Purchasers must also obtain prior import approval from the Minister of Agriculture and a license from the Central Bank.

While the government's austerity program (reducing imports and restricting credit) which was adopted in 1957 is still in effect, government sources indicate that import permits for breeding cattle will be issued freely.

AUSTRALIAN BEEF SHIPMENTS TO U. S. IN JANUARY

Two ships left Australia in January with 5,631,360 pounds of frozen beef for the United States.

Vessel	Sailing date	Destination ^{1/}	Quantity (1,000 lb.)
<u>Mariposa</u>	January 20	Los Angeles	226
		San Francisco	224
<u>Port Phillip</u>	January 22	New York	4,798
		Philadelphia	67
		Boston	81
		Chicago	235

^{1/} Indicates location of purchasers, and is usually also the port of arrival and general market area for the beef; in some instances, beef may be diverted to other areas for sale.

U.S. EXPORTS OF HOG CASINGS UP;
OTHER CASINGS DOWN IN 1959

U.S. exports of hog casings in 1959 totaled 11.0 million pounds, up 33 percent from a year earlier -- mainly because of increased supplies and reduced prices.

Shipments of other natural casings, mainly beef, were down 12 percent largely as a result of a sharp decline in shipments to Spain following increased import tariffs in late 1958. Shipments of hog casings to Spain also declined, but those to the United Kingdom and other major Western European countries rose sharply.

SAUSAGE CASINGS: U.S. exports by country of destination, annual 1956-59

Destination	Annual					Increase or decrease (-) 1959
	1956	1957	1958	1959		
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	
Hog casings:						
Canada.....	124	88	23	97	74	
Belgium.....	602	650	545	871	326	
Germany, West.....	958	1,004	769	1,292	523	
Netherlands.....	417	852	650	1,016	366	
Spain.....	572	620	634	569	-65	
Switzerland.....	275	336	207	451	244	
United Kingdom.....	3,125	2,617	3,106	3,977	871	
Union of South Africa..	346	371	411	419	8	
Australia.....	208	935	1,061	1,076	15	
New Zealand.....	610	633	546	661	115	
Other.....	102	296	327	588	261	
Total.....	7,339	8,402	8,279	11,017	2,738	
Other animal casings 1/:						
Canada.....	266	361	303	278	-25	
Cuba.....	138	182	133	125	-8	
Belgium.....	528	579	198	189	-9	
Denmark.....	48	45	56	115	59	
Germany, West.....	2,769	2,511	1,650	1,771	121	
Netherlands.....	1,586	1,243	320	352	32	
Norway.....	919	774	761	623	-138	
Spain.....	2,468	2,394	3,063	1,597	-1,466	
Switzerland.....	1,783	1,634	1,499	1,660	161	
United Kingdom.....	186	178	151	285	134	
Other.....	190	209	274	399	125	
Total.....	10,881	10,110	8,408	7,394	-1,014	

1/ Casings not elsewhere classified, mainly beef.

U. S. Bureau of the Census.

MARKETINGS OF ETHIOPIAN COFFEE SLOW, BUT QUALITY BETTER

Trading was very slow at the opening of Ethiopia's new coffee season in December 1959, but exports were expected to rise appreciably when larger quantities of Jima coffee became available.

Several leading exporters report that the National Coffee Board's efforts to improve coffee quality have been effective in reducing moisture and impurities in new-crop shipments. All coffee with more than 8 percent impurities and 15 percent moisture has been rejected by the NCBE this season.

Only about 40 percent of the crop is expected to go to the United States this season, compared with over 50 percent in previous years. West Germany, Italy, and France have become increasingly important consumers of Ethiopian coffee; substantial sales to Saudi Arabia and the Soviet Bloc are also anticipated.

LOWER PRICE, LARGER QUOTA NEGOTIATED FOR 1960 UNDER COMMONWEALTH SUGAR AGREEMENT

The negotiated price and the individual member quotas to which the price will apply in 1960 under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement have been announced.

The negotiated price has been set at B44-8-10 (\$124.42) per long ton. This is 13 shillings and 2 pence (\$1.84) per ton less than the 1959 negotiated price.

The 1960 negotiated price quota has been increased 3 percent above the 1959 quota and 5½ percent above the 1958 quota. Both the negotiated price quotas, and the "overall" quotas which are the maximum quantities for export to Commonwealth preferential markets and which include the negotiated price quota, are given in the following table:

Country	1960 Quotas	
	Overall	Negotiated
	Agreement quotas	price quotas
	Tons	Tons
Australia.....	600,000	316,500
British Honduras.....	25,000	18,990
East Africa.....	10,000	5,275
Fiji.....	170,000	126,600
Mauritius.....	470,000	353,425
South Africa, Union of.....	200,000	158,250
The West Indies and British Guiana....	900,000	676,308
Total.....	2,375,000	1,655,348

PAKISTAN ABOLISHES JUTE ACREAGE LICENSING

All licensing of jute acreage in Pakistan has been abolished for 1960. Licensing has been in effect for many years in an attempt to assure growers of reasonable prices. It has had little effect the last 2 years. Controls were lifted toward the end of each of these planting seasons when it was feared that actual plantings would be less than the permitted area. Pakistan has lost its control of the world market since India's production has reached a level to permit some exports and Brazil has entered the market.

Jute acreage in Pakistan fell from an average of about 1.8 million acres in 1947-53 to about 1.5 million acres in 1958. The second official estimate for 1959 was 1,375,000 acres, or a decrease of about 10 percent from the corresponding estimate for 1958.

The ban on planting jute in border areas is expected to be continued. The purpose of this ban is to discourage smuggling into India and also to keep out of production those areas that generally produce fiber of below-average quality.

DANISH EGG AND POULTRY PRODUCTION AND TRADE EXPANDED IN 1959

Preliminary reports indicate that Danish egg production in 1959 totaled 225 million dozen, about 6 million dozen more than in 1958. Exports were up 4 million dozen to 163 million. West Germany, the principal market, took 70 percent of the total. The average price received by farmers in 1959 was 29.7 cents per dozen, 3.9 cents less than in 1958.

Production of commercially dressed poultry in 1959 was 79.3 million pounds, an increase of 44 percent over 1958. Exports also increased 44 percent, to 57.3 million pounds. The value of exports only increased 37 percent.

U. S. EXPORTS OF DAIRY PRODUCTS DOWN IN 1959

U. S. exports of most dairy products in 1959 declined substantially from 1958.

The only increase was in condensed milk shipments, which totaled 38.5 million pounds, compared with 35.0 million in 1958. Vietnam continued to be by far the major market; it received about 91 percent of the total, almost all of which was shipped under government aid programs.

(Continued on following page)

Butter and cheese exports were down 24 and 91 percent, respectively. This was due mainly to decreased shipments of both products under Title I of Public Law 480 (sales for foreign currencies) and the discontinuance of cheese shipments under Section 416 of Public Law 480. No butter has been programed for foreign relief since 1957.

Exports of nonfat dry milk were down about 2 percent. Dry whole milk exports totaled 25.9 million pounds, compared with 28.7 million pounds in 1958. Dry whole milk shipments to Venezuela were again about 83 percent of the total in 1959. Total exports of evaporated milk dropped 44.4 million pounds; shipments to the Philippines, the principal market, were down 43.4 million pounds.

DAIRY PRODUCTS: U.S. exports, 1958 and 1959, with percentage change

Commodity	1958	1959	1959 change from 1958
	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Butter.....	32,754	24,636	-24
Cheese.....	157,997	14,002	-91
Nonfat dry milk.....	673,960	660,702	-2
Dry whole milk.....	28,691	25,926	-10
Evaporated milk.....	127,309	82,900	-34
Condensed milk.....	34,981	38,498	+10

CUBAN-EAST GERMAN TRADE TALKS

An East German trade mission is reported to have arrived in Cuba on February 8 to negotiate an agreement under which East Germany will exchange machinery for Cuban agricultural products, such as sugar and tobacco.

DENMARK ORGANIZES FOR EXPORT OF HATCHING EGGS

Increased interest in Denmark's hatching egg exports, which amounted to about \$635,000 in 1959, has prompted a group of Danish farmers to organize the "Exporting Producers of Hatching Eggs."

Danish egg producers feel they should diversify production in view of increasing supplies of exportable market eggs in Poland, Israel, and the Netherlands, and increased production in West Germany. About 66 percent of Denmark's egg production is sold for export, practically all for food. West Germany usually takes about 70 to 75 percent of total exports.

MALAYAN PALM OIL AND PALM KERNEL EXPORTS UP IN FIRST HALF OF 1959

Malayan exports of palm oil in the first 6 months of 1959 were up 17 percent from the first half of 1958. Palm kernel exports rose 12 percent in the same period.

Palm oil shipments to Asian countries were more than double those of January-June 1958 while exports to Europe were down 8 percent.

PALM OIL AND PALM KERNELS: Malaya, exports by country of destination average 1935-39, annual 1958, and January-June 1958 and 1959

Continent and country of destination	Palm oil				Palm kernels			
	Average:	1958	1/	January-June	Average:	1958	1/	January-June
	1935-39:	1958	1959	1958	1935-39:	1958	1959	1958
	Short	Short	Short	Short	Short	Short	Short	Short
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
North America:								
Canada.....	17,977:	18,839:	9,120:	6,254:	---	---	---	---
United States.....	608:	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Total.....	18,585:	18,839:	9,120:	6,254:	---	---	---	---
Europe:								
Denmark.....	---	---	---	---	226	1,434:	179:	56
France.....	---	---	---	---	---	168:	168:	---
Germany, West.....	43:	---	---	---	1,410	745:	---	56
Greece.....	---	---	---	---	---	1,128:	904:	---
Italy.....	6:	43:	43:	---	134	---	---	---
Netherlands.....	4:	---	---	---	1,304	56:	---	1,393
United Kingdom.....	23,270:	47,144:	18,187:	16,806:	2,115	2,145:	756:	1,148
Other.....	---	---	---	---	2,897	---	---	---
Total.....	23,323:	47,187:	18,230:	16,806:	8,086	5,676:	2,007:	2,653
Africa.....	915:	866:	---	145:	---	---	---	---
Asia:								
India.....	908:	17,163:	6,096:	12,307:	---	---	---	---
Iraq.....	---	3,136:	1,120:	4,032:	---	---	---	---
Japan.....	922:	1,485:	112:	555:	46	18,122:	7,544:	8,032
Philippines.....	245:	102:	102:	231:	---	---	---	---
Other.....	531:	341:	12:	211:	---	2/ 808:	3/ 8:	5
Total.....	2,606:	22,227:	7,442:	17,336:	46	18,930:	7,552:	8,037
Oceania.....	52:	5:	3:	2:	---	---	---	---
Unspecified.....	1,879:	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Grand total.....	47,360:	89,124:	34,795:	40,543:	8,132	24,606:	9,559:	10,690

1/ Preliminary. 2/ 565 tons to Mainland China and 243 tons to Hong Kong. 3/ Mainland China.

SUEZ CANAL OILSEED SHIPMENTS DOWN IN NOVEMBER

Shipments of oilseeds northward through the Suez Canal in November 1959 were one-third below the volume of the preceding month (see Foreign Crops and Markets, February 8, 1960), but were almost one-third above shipments in November 1958.

Northbound shipments in the first 2 months of the current marketing year beginning last October 1 were more than one-fourth greater than in October-November 1958. A heavy October volume of soybeans from Communist China pushed the total tonnage up sharply this season.

Although November soybean shipments were less than one-fourth as large as those of October--0.5 million bushels and 2.3 million, respectively--they were the third largest November shipments in postwar years. In November 1950, 1.1 million bushels were shipped and in November 1955, 0.9 million bushels. From 1948 through 1958 (excluding 1956 when the Canal was closed) shipments averaged only 276,600 bushels in November.

OILSEEDS: Suez Canal, northbound shipments, November 1958 and 1959, October-November 1958 and 1959

Oilseed	November		October-November	
	1958	1959	1958	1959
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>short tons</u>	<u>short tons</u>	<u>short tons</u>	<u>short tons</u>
Soybeans <u>1/</u>	11.0	15.4	46.3	84.9
Copra.....	41.9	51.8	98.1	106.9
Peanuts.....	9.9	11.0	22.0	18.7
Cottonseed.....	2.2	6.6	6.6	13.2
Flaxseed <u>2/</u>	1.1	3.3	4.4	4.4
Others.....	16.5	19.8	33.1	43.0
Total.....	82.6	107.9	210.5	271.1

1/ To convert to bushels use 33.3 bushels per ton. 2/ To convert to bushels use 35.7 bushels per ton.

Suez Canal Authority, Monthly Bulletin (Cairo, Egypt).

U.S. OLIVE OIL IMPORTS UP IN 1959

U.S. imports of olive oil in 1959 totaled 27,081 short tons, the highest import level since 1955. Imports of edible olive oil alone were just under the average of 27,162 short tons for the 5 years 1950-54. The major suppliers of olive oil to the United States were Spain, Italy, and Tunisia.

Because of high domestic prices as a result of the Greek support program for olive oil, Greece was practically eliminated from the U. S. market in 1959. Thus Spain was able to double its export volume, and shipments from Italy and Tunisia were about as large as they were in 1958.

OLIVE OIL, EDIBLE AND INEDIBLE: U. S. imports by country of origin,
averages 1935-39 and 1950-54, annual 1955-59

Country of origin	Average		1955	1956	1957	1958 1/	1959 1/
	1935-39	1950-54					
	Short	Short	Short	Short	Short	Short	Short
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
EDIBLE OIL							
Algeria.....	126	380	1,972	44	396	386	732
Argentina.....	2/	---	---	779	1,117	466	24
France.....	2,432	849	211	172	872	819	1,018
Greece.....	2,452	485	607	43	2,442	5,051	401
Italy.....	15,766	7,921	7,363	5,305	7,141	9,104	9,014
Lebanon.....	---	18	---	---	34	29	---
Morocco.....	3	57	1,730	22	1,272	---	39
Portugal.....	183	55	52	9	57	56	71
Spain.....	8,787	15,279	10,458	15,637	4,956	5,106	10,029
Syria.....	18	---	---	---	---	---	---
Tunisia.....	1,600	2,028	3,771	164	5,626	5,552	5,417
Turkey.....	---	34	---	---	3	---	---
Others.....	38	56	51	177	449	63	209
Total.....	31,405	27,162	26,215	22,352	24,365	26,632	26,954
INEDIBLE OIL							
Algeria.....	3,996	4	80	---	---	10	---
Argentina.....	---	---	---	9	16	---	13
France.....	51	14	---	---	6	---	---
Greece.....	5,505	13	---	6	5	36	---
Italy.....	1,868	36	---	---	---	37	---
Lebanon.....	---	17	22	---	---	9	---
Morocco.....	37	16	---	---	---	---	---
Portugal.....	1,930	1,664	1,022	496	---	---	---
Spain.....	2,144	64	54	56	55	5	37
Syria.....	134	---	---	---	---	---	---
Tunisia.....	1,975	228	14	2	32	75	66
Turkey.....	37	---	---	---	---	---	---
Others.....	47	---	---	---	5	---	11
Total.....	17,724	2,056	1,192	569	119	172	127
Total edible							
and inedible..	49,129	29,218	27,407	22,921	24,484	26,804	27,081

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Less than 0.5 ton.

Compiled from official records of the Department of Commerce.

FINLAND TO IMPORT RUSSIAN OILS AND SOYBEANS

Under the Finnish-U.S.S.R. trade agreement for 1960, signed in Moscow on December 22, 1959, Finland will import 3,300 tons of linseed oil, 2,200 tons of sunflower seed oil, and soybeans in unspecified volume. Under the 1959 agreement, Finland was to have imported 2,850 tons of linseed oil and 3,300 tons of sunflower seed oil. Soybeans, not included in the 1959 agreement, very likely will be of Chinese origin.

CANADA PRODUCES MORE MARGARINE, LESS SHORTENING IN 1959; OILSEED CRUSHINGS INCREASE

Canadian margarine production totaled 152.5 million pounds in 1959, up 5 percent from the 145.6 million pound output in 1958, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Shortening production last year--at 160.1 million pounds--was down 3.2 million pounds from 1958.

Much larger quantities of soybean and cottonseed oil were used in making shortening and margarine in 1959; they largely replaced coconut, palm, and marine oils. The more competitive position of soybean and cottonseed oils probably account for the shift.

OILS AND FATS: Canada, consumption by kind in margarine and shortening, annual 1958 and 1959

Commodity	Margarine		Shortening	
	1958	1959 1/	1958	1959 1/
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
Vegetable oils:				
Soybean.....	53,232	76,104	52,695	59,487
Cottonseed.....	4,373	9,030	8,123	9,545
Coconut.....	18,863	5,550	3,744	1,976
Palm and palm kernel....	16,982	10,535	16,273	11,179
Other.....	5,280	4,311	8,062	9,119
Total.....	96,730	105,530	88,897	91,306
Marine oils.....	19,806	12,776	16,741	5,061
Animal fats.....	1,357	4,707	60,956	63,676
Total oils and fats..	117,893	123,013	166,594	160,043

1/ Preliminary.

Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

Canadian processors crushed 16.1 million bushels of soybeans in 1959, up 2.0 million bushels from 1958. The 1959 crushings produced 170.3 million pounds of soybean oil and 383,038 short tons of oilcake and meal. Crushings of flaxseed in 1959 were 2.87 million bushels, down 849,000 bushels from a year earlier. Linseed oil production last year was 57.0 million pounds, and the outturn of oilcake and meal was 50,277 tons.

DROUGHT HURTS SOUTH AMERICAN CROPS

Prolonged dry weather has affected pastures and fall crops (February to May) in areas of Uruguay and Argentina which suffered from storms and floods last year.

The important crop area of southwestern Uruguay has had almost no rain in the past 2 months. Continued dryness will restrict milk and cattle production and may substantially lower yields of corn, sunflower seed, potatoes, and other fall crops.

Similar conditions have prevailed in the northern cereal-growing area of Argentina. Although this area benefited from recent rains, it is estimated that Argentina's 1960 corn production will be below last year's crop of about 215 million bushels.

NICARAGUA HAS LARGEST RICE
CROP IN SEVERAL YEARS

Nicaragua had a near-record rice harvest in 1959-60. It is estimated at 772,000 cwt. of rough rice, compared with 710,000 cwt. in 1958-59. The record was 1,186,000 cwt. in 1953-54. The crop is planted in June and harvest in December and January.

Rice acreage, estimated at 65,000 acres, was 6,000 acres more than in 1958-59. Record acreage was 84,000 acres in 1953-54, when there was considerable interest in increasing rice cultivation. Some rice replaced cotton in 1959-60.

Rice exports increased substantially in 1959. January-September exports totaled 51,700 cwt. in terms of milled rice, of which 50,300 cwt. went to El Salvador, and the remainder to Costa Rica. Exports in 1957 and 1958 were 37,723 and 12,215 cwt., respectively.

NEW ZEALAND REPORTS
RECORD WHEAT HARVEST

New Zealand's 1959 wheat crop is now estimated at a record 10.5 million bushels. New highs for harvested acreage and yields bring the current production 55 percent above the previous record in 1958.

Harvested acreage is estimated at 190,000 acres, compared with 135,000 acres in 1958. Yields, now placed at 55 bushels per acre, are 10 percent above the 1958 record and 35 percent above the 1950-54 average. The high yields are attributed to favorable growing conditions and good results from new varieties of wheat, principally Aotea.

Carryover stocks on January 1, 1960, are estimated to be the same as at the beginning of 1959, bringing domestic supplies to 12 million bushels, 3.8 million above the domestic supply for 1959. Imports during 1960 are therefore expected to drop to 3.5 million bushels, compared with 7.8 million during 1959.

WEST GERMANY ISSUES IMPORT TENDER FOR WHEAT AND RYE BRAN

A West German import tender for wheat and rye bran from all countries was published on February 3, 1960. German importers may apply for licenses between February 9 and March 31, 1960. Last day for customs clearance is April 14, 1960. Most of the bran purchased under earlier tenders was from Argentina, the U.S.S.R., France, and Turkey. A few hundred tons of U. S. bran were bought via Switzerland.

SMALL DECLINE IN WORLD WHEAT TRADE EXPECTED

World exports of wheat (including flour) in 1959-60 are expected to be slightly below last year's total of 1,260 million bushels but above the 1,190 million reached in 1957-58. The record is 1,328 million bushels in 1956-57.

Western Europe's record grain harvest has reduced that area's wheat import requirements. However, demand continues strong in Asia and Latin America, and there are some new markets in Africa. Drought has been quite severe in two small exporting countries, Syria and Uruguay, and both require some imports to meet consumption needs.

Exportable supplies are generally higher than a year ago. France has considerably more wheat for export. Although Australia had a smaller wheat crop in 1959, a larger carryover should permit exports exceeding the 75 million bushels exported in 1958-59. Argentina, Turkey, and Italy all have somewhat less wheat to export this season. While U.S.S.R. exports during 1959-60 remain uncertain, wheat production was down approximately 400 million bushels from last year. The United States and Canada continue to hold more wheat than they will be able to sell abroad, but their exports should remain near the 1958-59 level.

PHILIPPINE COPRA, COCONUT OIL EXPORTS UP IN JANUARY

Philippine exports of copra and coconut oil in January were 44,969 long tons, oil equivalent. This was an increase of 60 percent from the volume shipped in January 1959.

Copra shipments of 66,129 tons were up 77 percent from those of January 1959 while coconut oil shipments were off 7 percent. Desiccated coconut shipments were 1,918 short tons, against 1,250 tons exported in January 1959.

The copra export price in mid-February was about \$228.00 per long ton f.o.b. Philippine ports. Local buying prices were reported at 47.50 to 48.00 pesos per 100 kilograms (\$241.31 to \$243.85 per long ton) resecada Manila and 43.00 to 48.00 pesos (\$218.45 to \$243.85) in producing areas.

COPRA: Philippine Republic, exports by country of destination,
January 1959 and 1960 and annual 1958 and 1959

Country of destination:	January		January-December	
	1959 1/	1960 1/	1958 1/	1959 1/
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
North America:				
United States.....	14,394	24,985	263,609	289,531
Atlantic Coast.....	{ --- }	{ --- }	{ 759 }	{ --- }
Pacific Coast.....	{ 14,394 }	{ 24,985 }	{ 262,850 }	{ 289,531 }
Canada.....	---	---	1,300	---
Haiti.....	---	---	1,000	---
Panama.....	---	---	2,070	750
Panama Canal Zone....	---	---	1,000	401
Total.....	14,394	24,985	268,979	290,682
South America:				
Chile.....	---	---	200	---
Colombia.....	---	---	38,672	7,400
Venezuela.....	1,806	2,902	15,399	29,196
Unspecified.....	---	---	---	2/ 10,800
Total.....	1,806	2,902	54,271	47,396
Europe:				
Belgium-Luxembourg...	---	---	34,548	3,500
Denmark.....	500	2,000	22,299	21,990
France.....	---	---	12,559	5,000
Germany, West.....	3,330	2,100	57,832	38,680
Italy.....	---	1,000	11,468	10,500
Netherlands.....	14,315	29,650	217,124	188,745
Norway.....	500	1,000	8,500	9,960
Spain.....	500	---	100	3,500
Sweden.....	500	---	28,763	17,350
Optional discharge 3/:	---	2,000	4/ 1,000	5/ 11,531
Total.....	19,645	37,750	394,193	310,756
Asia:				
Israel.....	---	---	3,200	---
Japan.....	---	492	750	492
South Korea.....	---	---	---	225
Lebanon.....	---	---	4,500	1,250
Syria.....	1,500	---	---	1,500
Total.....	1,500	492	8,450	3,467
Grand total....	37,345	66,129	725,893	652,301

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes 4,700 tons to Colombia/Venezuela optional discharge. 3/ West Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark, Norway or Sweden. 4/ 500 tons to Finland and 500 tons to Switzerland. 5/ Includes 2,700 tons to "Europe unspecified" and 1,000 tons to France/Italy/Lebanon optional discharge.

COCONUT OIL: Philippine Republic, exports by country of destination,
January 1959 and 1960 and annual 1958 and 1959

Country of destination:	January		January-December	
	1959 1/	1960 1/	1958 1/	1959 1/
	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons	Long tons
North America:				
United States.....	5,695	5,308	77,211	58,541
Atlantic Coast.....	{ 4,696 }	{ 5,007 }	{ 68,740 }	{ 54,948 }
Pacific Coast.....	{ 999 }	{ 301 }	{ 8,471 }	{ 3,593 }
Cuba.....	---	---	350	---
Total.....	5,695	5,308	77,561	58,541
Europe:				
Netherlands.....	---	---	4,309	5,814
Total.....	---	---	4,309	5,814
Grand total....	5,695	5,308	2/ 82,173	64,355

1/ Preliminary. 2/ Includes 3 tons to Guam and 300 tons to Japan.

Source: Official sources, January-December 1958.

Philippine trade sources, January 1959 and 1960 and January-December 1959.

U. S. WHEAT EXPORTS EXPECTED TO REACH 440 MILLION BUSHELS

U. S. exports of wheat and flour in 1959-60 are expected to reach 440 million bushels; an earlier estimate was 425 million. Last year's total was 443 million bushels and the record is 549 million in 1956-57.

In the first 7 months of the 1959-60 marketing year (July-June), U. S. exports of wheat (including flour) to principal importers, in million of bushels, with last year's figures in parentheses, were as follows: Brazil 25 (16); West Germany 8 (12); United Kingdom 10 (18); India 45 (70); Pakistan 9 (5); Japan 18 (18); and Egypt 14 (1).

UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S WHEAT HARVEST ABOVE AVERAGE

The wheat harvest recently completed in the Union of South Africa is now estimated at 25 million bushels. This is about 10 percent above the 1958 out-turn and also well above average.

Winter wheat, making up most of the Union's crop, grew under very good conditions in the Western Cape Province and yields were better than in 1958. Summer wheat in the Transvaal and Orange Free State was much better than the two previous crops but yields were still below average.

Wheat stocks held by the Wheat Control Board on November 1, 1959, were slightly larger than stocks a year earlier. Wheat consumption is steadily increasing at the expense of corn. Total consumption in 1958-59 was estimated at 36 million bushels and is expected to be about 36.5 million bushels during the current season.

Wheat imports for 1959-60 are unofficially forecast at 11.5 million bushels, compared with 13.8 million in 1958-59. During that year 70 percent of the imports came from Canada and about 19 percent from the United States, under a barter contract.

U. S. COARSE GRAIN EXPORTS LARGE

U. S. coarse grain exports during July-December 1959 totaled 6.2 million metric tons, about 15 percent above those in the first half of 1958-59. Of the total exports this season, about 24 percent went to the Netherlands, 20 percent to the United Kingdom, 11 percent to West Germany, and 10 percent to Belgium-Luxembourg.

Corn exports were 2.9 million tons (about 47 percent of the total), and were up more than 11 percent from the comparable period in 1958. Exports of barley and sorghums made up another 47 percent of the total, and increased slightly from a year earlier. Exports of oats, although small, were 100 percent above the 177,000 tons exported a year earlier.

COARSE GRAINS: U.S. exports to principal countries, July-December 1958
and July-December 1959

Destination	Corn	Oats	Barley	Sorghums	Total
	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons	Metric tons
July-December 1958:					
Austria	37,068:	--	6,750:	--	43,818
Belgium-Luxembourg:	109,401:	43,765:	151,177:	181,497:	485,840
Denmark	12,928:	1,372:	25,170:	94,068:	133,538
France	41,099:	--	--	--	41,099
West Germany	86,376:	1,702:	295,092:	79,470:	462,640
Greece	35,977:	5,060:	--	--	41,037
Ireland	5,972:	--	4,064:	--	10,036
Italy	375:	--	31,495:	--	31,870
Netherlands	392,440:	101,028:	317,548:	306,547:	1,117,563
Norway	17,414:	--	2,486:	34,005:	53,905
Poland	4,557:	--	96,908:	--	101,465
Spain	41,214:	--	48,904:	19,754:	109,872
Sweden	8,973:	3,043:	1,321:	14,001:	27,338
Switzerland	1,684:	4,655:	19,259:	1,524:	27,122
United Kingdom ...	853,423:	9,872:	3,772:	226,889:	1,093,956
Other Europe	18:	--	2,410:	--	2,428
Egypt	--	--	--	--	--
Israel	10,574:	--	11,177:	87,718:	109,469
Japan	223,191:	--	249,617:	--	472,808
All others	636,523:	6,170:	176,311:	176,571:	995,575
World total ...	2,519,207:	176,667:	1,443,461:	1,222,044:	5,361,379
July-December 1959:					
Austria	141,925:	5,177:	8,075:	2,000:	157,177
Belgium-Luxembourg:	204,251:	15,460:	93,385:	305,867:	618,963
Denmark	33,843:	13,267:	146,877:	107,264:	301,251
France	16,319:	--	--	--	16,319
West Germany	198,691:	77,248:	248,746:	149,920:	674,605
Greece	2,682:	--	6,614:	--	9,296
Ireland	36,548:	508:	13,792:	2,032:	52,880
Italy	26,764:	3,785:	21,640:	--	52,189
Netherlands	512,835:	219,854:	357,699:	384,039:	1,474,427
Norway	41,970:	--	3,353:	40,046:	85,369
Poland	11,735:	--	230,146:	24,136:	266,017
Spain	33,695:	--	65,272:	--	98,967
Sweden	12,559:	24,653:	1,856:	28,317:	67,385
Switzerland	4,443:	18,791:	26,621:	1,431:	51,286
United Kingdom ...	955,773:	2,032:	67,174:	194,774:	1,219,753
Other Europe	1,133:	167:	2,042:	--	3,342
Egypt	49,943:	--	5,750:	9,893:	65,586
Israel	36,449:	--	13,717:	105,126:	155,292
Japan	127,475:	--	50,688:	--	178,163
All others	479,538:	2,790:	103,333:	49,731:	635,392
World total ...	2,928,571:	383,732:	1,446,780:	1,404,576:	6,183,659

Source: Bureau of the Census.

GUATEMALA REGULATES WHEAT MIXING

A recent Guatemalan decree requires each flour miller to use 30 percent of domestic soft wheat in his grist. Each miller must buy a year's supply of this wheat before he can obtain licenses to import the 70 percent of hard wheat. Guatemala's wheat production is about 30 percent of its needs and consists only of soft wheat.

As flour millers must pay farmers \$6.00 per Spanish quintal (\$3.55 per bushel) for domestic wheat, Guatemala has become self-sufficient in this type of wheat. Since last October, importation of soft wheat and flour made of such wheat has been prohibited. Imports of hard wheats needed for blending purposes, which have come entirely from the United States and Canada, are subject to quota restrictions. Imports of flour made of hard wheat are similarly restricted.

CUBAN WINTER VEGETABLE EXPORTS BELOW LAST YEAR'S

Cuban exports of fresh cucumbers through January of this season totaled 20.4 million pounds--about the same volume that was shipped in the comparable period last season. Exports of fresh tomatoes through January dropped to 6.7 million pounds from 8.8 million a year earlier.

Shipments of both tomatoes and cucumbers are higher than estimated earlier because of unusually favorable prices in the U. S. market.

CANADIAN WHEAT AND FLOUR EXPORTS UP IN JULY-DECEMBER 1959

Canadian wheat and flour exports totaled 153 million bushels during July-December 1959, up about 5 million bushels from comparable 1958. This increase was mostly in wheat although flour exports were up somewhat.

More than 8 million bushels of wheat went to France, Poland, Algeria, and the Union of South Africa; these countries took none in the first half of last season. In contrast, shipments to the United Kingdom and the Netherlands declined sharply from a year earlier.

There were slight gains in flour exports to Ceylon, Japan, and the Philippines, but sales to Venezuela fell off sharply.

Preliminary estimates for January indicate that exports during July-January 1959-60 were about the same as those in the comparable period in 1958-59, or about 170 million bushels. During the first half of the Canadian marketing year (August-January) 1959-60, exports may have exceeded the 144 million bushels exported during the first half of 1958-59.

WHEAT AND FLOUR: Canadian exports by country of destination,
July-December 1958 and July-December 1959

Country of destination	July-December 1958			July-December 1959		
	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total	Wheat	Flour 1/	Total
	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels	bushels
Western Hemisphere:						
United States	2,129	811	2,940	534	706	1,240
British West Indies:	4	2,484	2,488	1	2,762	2,763
Central America ...	87	871	958	78	974	1,052
Colombia	—	284	284	808	2	810
Cuba	1	170	171	1	125	126
Peru	598	19	617	2,723	3	2,726
Venezuela	1,279	681	1,960	2,017	2	2,019
Others	358	758	1,116	464	604	1,068
Total	4,456	6,078	10,534	6,626	5,178	11,804
Europe:						
Austria	1,665	—	1,665	1,901	—	1,901
Belgium-Luxembourg :	6,677	166	6,843	6,865	39	6,904
France	—	—	—	2,336	—	2,336
Germany, West	16,814	—	16,814	16,413	—	16,413
Ireland	2,566	—	2,566	963	—	963
Italy	445	1	446	2,142	—	2,142
Netherlands	8,823	5	8,828	5,402	3	5,405
Norway	1,981	—	1,981	1,635	—	1,635
Poland	—	—	—	1,628	—	1,628
Switzerland	3,821	—	3,821	4,049	—	4,049
United Kingdom	47,101	6,733	53,834	42,637	6,873	49,510
Others	940	68	1,008	1,523	65	1,588
Total	90,833	6,973	97,806	87,494	6,980	94,474
Asia:						
Ceylon	—	424	424	—	772	772
China, Mainland ...	1,643	—	1,643	—	—	—
India	6,586	2	6,588	5,940	—	5,940
Iraq	—	—	—	2,033	—	2,033
Japan	21,642	257	21,899	20,252	605	20,857
Pakistan	1,139	—	1,139	3,136	—	3,136
Philippines	383	2,605	2,988	541	2,344	2,885
Others	1,168	917	2,085	1,461	1,587	3,048
Total	32,561	4,205	36,766	33,363	5,308	38,671
Africa:						
Algeria	—	—	—	1,506	—	1,506
Union of So. Africa:	—	—	—	2,750	—	2,750
Others	164	866	1,030	113	1,759	1,872
Total	164	866	1,030	4,369	1,759	6,128
Oceania	—	7	7	—	10	10
Unspecified 2/	1,656	—	1,656	1,920	—	1,920
World total	129,670	18,129	147,799	133,772	19,235	153,007

1/ Grain equivalent. 2/ Includes seed wheat.

Source: Board of Grain Commissioners for Canada.

INDONESIA'S RICE IMPORTS LAG IN 1959

Rice imports into Indonesia in January-September 1959 were 7,625,00 cwt. (100 pounds), compared with 10,008,000 bags in the same period of 1958. Imports from January through July, the latest months for which data are available by country, were principally from Communist China (44 percent), Burma (43 percent), Brazil (9 percent), and Thailand (3 percent).

Imports were expected to pick up to some extent in the last quarter of 1959. Purchases in 1959 were relatively heavy, but a sizable part of them were for delivery in 1960. Also, deliveries were not received on some purchases, either because Indonesia did not take all it ordered or the suppliers could not deliver the rice.

Total milled rice imports in 1959 were expected to be between 11 and 13.2 million cwt., compared with 15 million cwt. in 1958. Imports from the United States increased substantially in the last quarter.

Indonesia had a very good rice crop in 1959. The government is now publicizing a program to expand rice production so that by 1962 the country will be self-sufficient in rice and have a surplus. In recent years, as the country expanded rproduction to meet requirements, increases in both population and per capita consumption of rice have made it necessary to continue heavy imports.

RICE: Indonesia's imports, January-July 1959, and purchases in 1959

Country of origin	Imports	Purchases	
	January-July 1959	1959	Remarks
	<u>1,000 cwt.</u>	<u>1,000 cwt.</u>	
Brazil.....	628	1,102	
Burma.....	2,883	11,023	Heavy delivery in 1960
Communist China.....	2,951	3,858	
Egypt.....	59	0	
North Vietnam.....	0	441	To be shipped in 1960
South Vietnam.....	4	1,102	To be shipped in 1960
Thailand.....	183	2,205	
United States.....	22	2,756	
U.S.S.R.....	0	4,409	
Other countries.....	2	0	
Total.....	6,732	26,896	

Compiled from official statistics and unofficial estimates.

U. S. AND COMPETING CANNED FRUIT
AND JUICE PRICES IN EUROPE

Importers' selling prices (per dozen) of selected canned fruits and canned juices in late January 1960 were quoted in London and Hamburg as follows:

Type and quality	Origin	Units per doz.	London: U. S. dollars	Hamburg
<u>CANNED FRUITS</u>				
<u>Apricots</u>				
Halves, standard	United States	No. 2½ cans		3.94
" "	Australia	"		4.00
" "	South Africa	"		4.14
Halves, choice	"	"	3.01	
" "	"	16 oz.	1.75	
<u>Peaches</u>				
Halves, standard	United States	No. 2½ cans	3.37	
" "	South Africa	16 oz.	1.89	
" choice	United States	No. 2½ cans		4.06
" "	Argentina	"		3.88
Slices, first grade	South Africa	16 oz.	2.03	
<u>Pears</u>				
Bartlett 1/	United States	No. 2½ cans		4.71
Williams 1/	Italy	"		4.57
Klapp's 1/	Netherlands	"		4.57
1/ standard	South Africa	"	2.80-3.64	
1/ "	"	16 oz.	2.31	
<u>Pineapple</u>				
Slices, standard	Malaya	16 oz.	1.41	
" "	"	20 oz.	1.89	
Slices, choice	Hawaii	No. 2½ cans		4.28
" "	Australia	"		3.60
" "	Taiwan	"		3.91
<u>Grapefruit</u>				
Sections 1/	U.S. (Florida)	No. 303 cans	2.28-2.36	
" 1/	" "	8 oz.	1.40	
Sections, fancy	" "	No. 303 cans		2.80
<u>Fruit cocktail</u>				
Choice	United States	No. 2½ cans		5.26
<u>CANNED JUICE, SINGLE STRENGTH</u>				
Orange juice, fancy	United States	No. 2½ cans		2.08
" " "	Israel	"		1.88
Grapefruit juice, fancy	United States	No. 2 cans		1.77
" " "	Israel	"		1.60
Lemon juice 1/	U.S. (Calif.)	6 oz.		1.08
Pineapple juice, fancy	U.S. (Hawaii)	No. 2 cans		1.63
" " "	South Africa	"		1.48

1/ Information not specified.

PORTUGAL'S 1959 EDIBLE DRIED FIG
PACK SAME AS 1958

The 1959 production of edible dried figs in Algarve, Portugal, is estimated at 8,800 short tons, the same as in 1958. However, the total commercial pack is estimated at 13,200 tons, a 22-percent increase over the 10,800-ton 1958 crop. Variable weather throughout 1959 is reportedly responsible for the small proportion of edible quality. Algarve produces all of Portugal's exportable edible dried figs and paste.

DRIED FIGS: Portugal, supply and distribution,
annual 1958 and forecast 1959

Item	Year beginning September 1	
	1958	1959
	Short tons	Short tons
Total production.....	10,800	13,200
Edible production.....	8,800	8,800
Beginning stocks, edible.....	0	0
Total edible supply.....	8,800	8,800
Exports, edible.....	<u>1/</u> 7,300	<u>2/</u> 6,100
Domestic consumption, edible.....	1,500	2,700
Ending stocks, edible.....	0	0
Total edible disappearance.....	8,800	8,800
<u>1/</u> Includes 4,500 tons of paste. <u>2/</u> Includes 2,200 tons of paste.		

Exports from the edible 1959 pack are expected to reach 6,100 tons--2,200 tons as paste and 3,900 tons as dried figs. Most of the paste (about 2,000 tons) is expected to be sold to the United States. Fig paste exports from September 1959 through January 1960 are estimated at 1,400 tons, 43 percent less than the 3,371 tons shipped in the same period of 1958-59. By the end of January, shipments of edible dried figs totaled about 5,500 tons (equally divided between domestic sales and exports).

Dried fig stocks on hand February 1 suitable for edible use--as figs or paste--are estimated at 1,700 to 2,200 tons.

Fig paste exports from the 1958 edible pack amounted to 4,505 short tons. The United States was the principal customer, taking about 92 percent or 4,150 tons. Other buyers were Ireland, 215 tons; the United Kingdom, 56 tons; West Germany, 46 tons; Canada, 28 tons; and Norway, 10 tons. Portugal exported about 2,800 tons of dried figs in 1958.

The price in early February of fig paste for the U. S. market was reported at 8 to 8.5 cents per pound, c.i.f. New York. There appears to be resistance to any reduction in this price, which is about 1 cent per pound lower than opening prices this season.

A Portuguese firm is now making fig bars in Lisbon. The small initial output reportedly sold very well. The firm has now requested a 30-ton supply of paste to use in the bars. In the last 3 seasons, Portugal's use of fig paste totaled less than $\frac{1}{2}$ ton. The industry hopes it will eventually be possible to export fig bars to European markets.

SOUTH BRAZILIAN COTTON EXPORT PLANS ANNOUNCED

The Ministry of Finance has approved plans to release about 550,000 bales (500 pounds gross) of South Brazilian cotton for export during its 1960-61 crop year, beginning March 1, 1960.

An initial export quota of about 275,000 bales was authorized on February 3. The minimum export price for South Brazilian cotton, basis type 5, was increased to an equivalent of $21\frac{1}{2}$ U. S. cents a pound, compared with 20 cents a pound in 1959-60.

CANADIAN COTTON CONSUMPTION LOWER

Canadian cotton consumption, based on the number of bales opened by mills, totaled 169,000 bales (500 pounds gross) in the first 6 months (August-January) of the current season. This was 7 percent less than the 182,000 bales opened in the corresponding months of the previous season.

Cotton consumption in January was 26,000 bales--4 percent less than the 27,000 bales used in December and 13 percent under consumption of 30,000 in January 1959.

TRANSSHIPMENTS OF MEXICAN COTTON LARGER

Transshipments of Mexican cotton through U. S. ports totaled 369,000 bales (500 pounds gross) during the first 3 months (August-October) of the 1959-60 season. This was 37 percent more than the 269,000 bales transshipped in the corresponding period of 1958-59. Transshipments in October 1959 were 141,000 bales, compared with 99,000 bales in September, and 104,000 in October 1958.

Principal destinations for the August-October 1959 period, with comparable 1958 figures in parentheses, were: West Germany 69,000 bales (78,000); France 66,000 (3,000); Japan 65,000 (6,000); Italy 32,000 (42,000); United Kingdom 31,000 (40,000); Netherlands 26,000 (14,000); Switzerland 17,000 (16,000); Belgium 16,000 (29,000); and Canada 10,000 (4,000).

U. S. ports through which most of the Mexican cotton transshipments moved in the August-October 1959 period, were: Brownsville 350,000 bales; San Diego 7,000; Oakland 4,000; Los Angeles 2,000; Long Beach 2,000; Houston 1,000; San Francisco 1,000; and Detroit 1,000.

ARGENTINA'S 1959-60 FLAXSEED CROP
ESTIMATED AT 30 MILLION BUSHELS

Argentina's 1959-60 flaxseed crop is placed at 30,392,000 bushels, according to the second official estimate. This is 9 percent above the first official estimate (see Foreign Crops and Markets, December 28, 1959), 25 percent greater than the 1958-59 outturn, and the largest crop since 1947-48 when 35,470,000 bushels were harvested.

While plantings at 2.8 million acres were down 5 percent from the previous year because of excessive rains, growing conditions were good. On the basis of the second estimates of output and acreage, yield per planted acre was 10.8 bushels--sharply above the 8.2 bushels in 1958-59 and the highest yield since the 11.0-bushel yield of 1943-44.

INDIA'S 1959-60 COTTON CROP
ESTIMATE REVISED

Latest reports indicate that India's 1959-60 cotton crop may not exceed 3,800,000 bales (500 pounds gross). This is a reduction from earlier estimates and is 7 percent below the 1958-59 crop of 4,100,000 bales. The downward revision in this year's crop estimate is attributed mainly to flood damage in the state of Bombay and other areas.

FOREIGN FREE WORLD COTTON
CONSUMPTION AND IMPORTS INCREASE

Latest statistics show that aggregate cotton consumption and imports in principal foreign Free World importing countries increased 9 and 10 percent, respectively, from a year earlier. Stocks in these countries (excluding India, Italy, and Spain) are down about 0.2 million bales from beginning stocks on August 1, 1959.

Both consumption and imports in the early months of this season have increased over the same period a year ago in most countries listed in the accompanying table. In Norway, Spain, Portugal, and Canada, however, consumption was unchanged or below the same period in 1958; and in Spain and Italy, imports were down from a year earlier. Most of the stock decline was in Japan.

Conditions are favorable for new consumption records and substantially larger imports in a number of countries this season. Domestic and export sales of textiles are increasing, the volume of unfilled orders in large, low stocks of cotton and textiles are being replenished in some countries, and burdensome inventories of finished goods have been reduced in others.

COTTON: Consumption, imports, and current stocks in principal foreign Free World importing countries,
for specified periods of 1958-59 and 1959-60 1/

(Bales of 500 pounds gross)

Country	Consumption		Imports		Stocks		Change in stocks since Aug. 1, 1959	
	No. of mos.	1958-59	1959-60	1958-59	1959-60	Aug. 1 1959	Current (computed)	+
		1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
Austria.....	4	36	39	31	34	26	21	5
Belgium.....	2	57	68	46	57	116	105	11
Canada.....	2	59	56	20	37	61	42	19
Denmark.....	3	10	12	8	12	9	9	--
Finland.....	5	26	37	39	45	23	31	8
France.....	5	490	540	493	544	250	254	4
Germany, West....	4	461	485	373	451	320	286	34
Hong Kong.....	4	94	101	99	100	56	55	1
India.....	2	729	747	33	65	1,810	2/ 4,880	3/
Italy.....	3	195	224	174	153	200	4/ 162	3/
Japan.....	4	770	925	675	810	680	565	115
Netherlands.....	3	84	90	65	75	82	67	15
Norway.....	1	2	2	5/	1	3	2	1
Portugal.....	1	17	16	14	15	69	68	1
Spain.....	5	201	195	197	1	250	6/ 331	3/
Sweden.....	3	37	38	27	32	79	73	6
Switzerland.....	5	55	55	73	83	98	126	28
United Kingdom..	4	408	455	297	424	401	370	31
Total.....		3,731	4,085	2,664	2,939	4,533	7,447	7/ 40 : 7/ 239
Total excluding India, Italy & Spain:		2,606	2,919	2,260	2,720	2,273	2,074	Net : change 199

1/ Preliminary and partly estimated. 2/ Includes crop of 3,800,000 bales minus exports of 48,000 bales.

3/ Not calculated because of incoming crop. 4/ Includes crop of 33,000 bales. 5/ Less than 500.

6/ Includes crop of 275,000 bales. 7/ Excluding India, Italy, and Spain.

EGYPT EXPECTS LARGEST COTTON CROP IN 22 YEARS

Egypt's 1959-60 cotton crop is expected to be the largest since 1937-38. The third official government estimate, released February 11, placed the current crop at 2,089,000 bales of 500 pounds gross.

This estimate is slightly higher than each of the 2 preceding 1959-60 official estimates, and is 2 percent above the 1958-59 crop of 2,048,000 bales. It exceeds average production of 1,707,000 bales in the preceding 5 seasons by 22 percent. Crop conditions have been favorable this season and good yields will offset an officially estimated 7.6-percent reduction in acreage from 1958-59.

Although 1959-60 production of extra-long staples declined from the previous season, the drop was more than offset by a substantial increase in production of medium-long staple Giza cotton, and a moderate increase in long-staple Ashmouni.

COTTON: Egypt, production by staple length and variety,
final estimate 1958-59, and third estimate 1959-60

Staple length and principal varieties	1958-59	1959-60	Percentage change
	1,000	1,000	
	<u>bales 1/</u>	<u>bales 1/</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Extra-long staple, over 1-3/8":			
Karnak, Menoufi, and Giza 45....	1,200	1,071	-11
Medium-long staple, over 1-1/4":			
Giza 30, 31, and 47.....	160	313	+96
Long staple, over 1-1/8":			
Ashmouni.....	640	663	+ 4
Subtotal.....	2,000	2,047	+ 2
Scarto (unclassified cotton).....	48	42	-12
Total.....	2,048	2,089	+ 2

1/ Bales of 500 pounds gross.

Source: Government of Egypt.

U. S. EXPORTS OF POULTRY MEAT CONTINUE INCREASE; EGGS DOWN

Last year was a record season for U. S. exports of all poultry meat products except turkeys.

Poultry meat exports totaled 125.7 million pounds in 1959, compared with 51.4 million in 1958. Exports of fresh and frozen chicken totaled 98.3 million pounds, 78 percent of the total. Turkey exports were 12.0 million pounds, compared with 5.2 million in 1958. Canned poultry exports increased 6.8 million pounds to 9.7 million.

West Germany became the major market for U. S. poultry meat in 1959, taking 52.2 million pounds. Frozen chicken accounted for about 72 percent of this. Switzerland was the second largest market, taking 20.2 million pounds (also mostly frozen chicken).

Shell egg exports (20.4 million dozen) were down 29 percent, but hatching egg shipments (6.7 million dozen) rose 3 percent. A steep rise in dried egg shipments--from .7 million pounds in 1958 to 6.6 million pounds in 1959--brought total egg exports (on a shell equivalent basis) up to the high level of 5 years ago.

POULTRY AND EGGS: U. S. exports, by type, 1958 and 1959

Commodity	Unit	1958	Preliminary 1959	1959 change from 1958
		Thou.	Thou.	Percent
Live poultry:				
Baby chicks.....	head	14,479	16,517	+14
Other.....	pounds	4,615	6,340	+37
Chickens, fresh and frozen:				
Broilers and fryers.....	pounds	23,735	70,371	+196
Roasters and stewers.....	pounds	13,304	27,942	+110
Total.....	pounds	37,039	98,313	+165
Other poultry and game, fresh and frozen:				
Turkeys.....	pounds	5,209	12,010	+131
Other.....	pounds	6,226	5,726	-8
Total.....		11,435	17,736	+55
Canned poultry.....	pounds	2,946	9,691	+229
Eggs in the shell:				
Hatching:	dozen	6,501	6,692	+3
Other.....	dozen	22,381	13,689	-39
Total.....	dozen	28,882	20,381	-29
Dried eggs.....	pounds	714	6,559	+819
Frozen eggs.....	pounds	455	595	+31

WASHINGTON 25, D. C. _

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

(PMGC)

Official Business

MEXICAN WINTER VEGETABLE SHIPMENTS

The following winter vegetables from the West Coast of Mexico crossed the border at Nogales, Arizona, during the period January 16-31 (In thousands of pounds): tomatoes, 18,036; peppers, 2,032; cucumbers, 597; eggplant, 358; peas, 589; green beans, 331; sweet corn, 101; and squash, 101.

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FATP 2-60. 4 pp.

World Barley and Oats Production Smaller. Foreign Agriculture Circular
FG 2-60. 6 pp.

Greece: Fats and Oils Supply and Distribution. Foreign Agriculture
Circular FFO 4-60. 11 pp.

Foreign Agricultural Trade Digest, February 1960. 6 pp.

Prospects for Foreign Trade in Cotton. 20 pp.

Mediterranean Basin Olive Oil Production at Near-Record Level. Foreign
Agriculture Circular FFO 3-60. 2 pp. (Reprint of FFO 28-29 with
table added.)